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Befriending KGB 'exciting' to Arne

OSLO, Norway (UPI) — A former deputy foreign minister for Norway who is charged with spying for Moscow admitted yesterday he passed confidential documents to Soviet officials, including a KGB general, and said it was exciting to befriend Russian agents.

Arne Treholt, 42, also said on the fourth day of his espionage trial that he was paid to prepare unspecified analyses for Iraqi intelligence, but denied he was spying for Baghdad.

In testimony yesterday, Mr. Treholt said he passed to the Soviets classified notes from a September 1980 meeting in Washington between then Norwegian Foreign Minister Knut Frydenlund and former U.S. Ambassador Marshall Shulman, a special adviser on Soviet affairs to the State Department.

He said he gave the notes to Soviet diplomat Viktor Shishin, who the prosecution says was the defendant's KGB contact at the United Nations. Mr. Treholt served with the Norwegian U.N. delegation from 1979 to 1982.

Mr. Treholt admitted passing

other documents to Mr. Shishin, but said they contained information that was public knowledge or "could be found in The New York Times."

The defendant said in return that Mr. Shishin gave him papers he used to write analyses for an Iraqi intelligence agent.

Mr. Treholt also testified he gave KGB Gen. Gennady Titov a confidential analysis on Soviet affairs from the Norwegian Defense College, which the defendant attended in 1982-83.

"I knew that as an official I should not have these contacts with Titov," Mr. Treholt said, but added it was "exciting" to be friends with a Soviet spy.

Mr. Treholt said he decided to stop seeing Mr. Titov after the Soviet asked him to start microfilming documents and was heading to Vienna to break the contact when he was arrested at Oslo airport Jan. 20, 1984.

Prosecutor Lasse Quigstad pointed out that Mr. Treholt was carrying 66 classified documents in his briefcase when he was arrested.